

FISCAL NOTE

HB 1706 - SB 1821

March 17, 1997

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the *Drug Bounty Act of 1997* which provides that:

- all property, conveyances and money subject to forfeiture pursuant to TCA Section 53-11-451, notwithstanding the provisions of TCA Section 40-33-211 or any other law to the contrary, shall become property of the state of Tennessee. Proceeds from the sale of such property shall be deposited into a general fund reserve account known as the *Tennessee Bounty Fund*.
- the State Treasurer is authorized to administer the fund and expend proceeds for the payment of cash incentives and supplements to eligible informants or law enforcement officers, and pay the administrative costs to implement the Drug Bounty Act..
- any money seized by law enforcement agencies is required to be deposited in the bounty fund within 10 days of the forfeiture date. Forfeited money shall be transmitted to the Treasurer with enough information to allow for a separate accounting of each transaction.
- the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation shall establish an *Informant/Tipster Information Program* to encourage public involvement.
- a mechanism shall be established for those approved to receive distribution of bounty funds.
- the Tennessee Bounty Fund Board shall be created to oversee and administer the bill and empowers the board to develop, solicit and accept private donations for deposit in the fund.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures -	\$126,000 Recurring - Tennessee Bounty Fund
	\$103,000 One-time - Tennessee Bounty Fund
Increase State Revenues -	Exceeds \$1,000,000
Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures -	Not Significant
Decrease Local Govt. Revenues -	Exceeds \$1,000,000

Revenue estimates reflect the loss of revenues by local governments and a corresponding increase in state revenues from seizures and confiscations.

Cost estimates reflect the implementation of an automated system, equipment, staff and related expenses to the Department of Treasury to administer the Drug Bounty Fund and three positions, equipment and related expenses to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation to administer the informant/tipster program.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director